

ERASMUS+ TRAINING COURSE

EARTH KEEPERS



 **14 - 22 DECEMBER, 2026**
(INCLUDING TRAVEL DATES)

 **AT ZAJEŽOVÁ EDUCATIONAL CENTER**
PLIEŠOVCE, SLOVAKIA



Co-funded by
the European Union



GEN EUROPE
GLOBAL
ECOVILLAGE
NETWORK

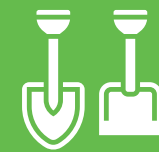
yes to sustainability 



NEXTGEN
EUROPE
YOUTH
ECOVILLAGE
NETWORK



Earth Keepers[🌱] is an invitation to pause, reconnect and explore. A space for youth workers to meet, exchange practices and discover different ways of approaching sustainability, nature and youth work.



WHAT YOU WILL LEARN?

- Emotional resilience tools and nature-based methods (e.g. The Work That Reconnects) to relate to climate anxiety in a grounded, sustainable way.
- Facilitation skills with elements of the Bridgedale 360 toolkit and Sociocracy for leading complex group processes and non-hierarchical decision-making.
- How to move from “event organisation” to transformative stewardship and power-with facilitation that builds real youth agency.



WHAT WILL WE DO TOGETHER?

- A 7-day residential training in Zaježová, Slovakia, with an intensive, hands-on Facilitation Lab.
- Experiential workshops, visits to local eco-projects and shared daily tasks rooted in learning-by-doing and collective responsibility.
- Online preparation before the training, followed by mentoring and local multiplier events in each country.

WHO IS IT FOR?

- 28 youth workers, educators, community leaders and volunteers from European eco-villages bringing together more experienced facilitators and emerging practitioners.
- At least 50% of places are reserved for people with fewer opportunities, including those facing rural, geographical or socio-economic barriers.
- We accept participants with residency in: Spain, Hungary, Kosovo, Germany, France, Serbia, Croatia, Greece, Italy, The Netherlands and Slovakia





WHAT YOU'LL TAKE WITH YOU

- Leave as an Earth Keeper, with greater self-efficacy and practical approaches for working with climate anxiety and nature-based processes.
- Co-create the Earth Keepers Workshop Canvas Collection (WCC), a ready-to-use set of workshop designs for your local context.
- Bring Sociocracy and nature-based facilitation into your organisation's governance and regular activities.
- Run a local multiplier event, with each national team reaching at least 100 young people across the 11 countries.
- Contribute to open resources (the WCC and Multilingual Nature-Based Facilitation Glossary) shared through SALTO-YOUTH.
- Join a lasting transnational community of practice within GEN-EU and Next Gen for continued exchange and mutual support.



ETTI

CO-FACILITATOR



RICCARDO

CO-FACILITATOR



EPONINE

PROJECT MANAGER & CO-FACILITATOR

This training is organised by members of Yes to Sustainability Network (YTS). We are a network of young people and youth workers whose aim is to bring together young people in ecovillages and sustainable projects in Europe. Our vision is of a world in which young people are empowered to create resilient communities, contribute to regenerative cultures, and take care of the planet.

MEET OUR TEAM 



WHAT TO KNOW BEFORE SIGNING UP?

By signing up, you agree to the following conditions.

- **Participation & cancellation:** Your place is linked to the EU grant funding the training. Cancellation is only possible in cases of **force majeure**, such as serious illness (with medical certification). Otherwise, you may arrange a substitute, with support from your national partner organisation where possible.
- **Travel & reporting:** After the training, you must complete the **EU Participant Report** and provide your full travel documentation (e.g. tickets and boarding passes) for project reporting and travel reimbursement.
- **Dissemination:** Participants are expected to share their experience through appropriate channels, such as social media, an article, a presentation or other activities with their sending organisation.





CERTIFICATION

This is how you can use your attendance for your personal and professional development.

Youthpass: You will receive a Youthpass Certificate and use the Youthpass key competences to reflect on and assess your learning throughout the training.

You can check out the competencies of the Youthpass for Youth Workers here.



ACCOMMODATION

We'll stay together at **Vzdelávacie centrum Zaježová**, a welcoming learning space surrounded by nature.

Participants will share rooms, and bathrooms and toilets are shared between participants rather than being private to each room. **Bed sheets, blankets and pillows are provided**, so just bring your personal essentials.



FOOD

We serve **vegetarian food**.

Please let us know in advance about any allergies, food intolerances or dietary requirements, including vegan diets. The kitchen can accommodate soy-, gluten- and dairy-free options, although cross-contamination cannot be guaranteed. Our cooks will do their best to adapt the meals, so please get in touch with us early.



HOW TO GET THERE

Zajezova is situated in the region of Banska Bystrica, in central Slovakia. The nearest city is called Zvolen (40 km) and the closest village is called Pliesovce (10 km).

Erasmus+ Green Travel defines sustainable travel as using low-emission transport for the majority of the journey to and from the destination. Eligible methods include buses, trains, shared cars, or bicycles. More than 50% of the total round-trip distance must be made using these transport modes.

- The czech company Regiojet provides bus and train connections around Europe - <https://www.regiojet.com/>.
- Flixbus is another option - <https://global.flixbus.com/>
- Interrail also offers global passes specifically for Erasmus+ (if you go for this option, we need the receipt for the ticket + the reservations)

THE NEAREST CITY IS ZVOLEN

- By train, nightjet is offering night trains from various destinations to Vienna. There are regular train connections from Vienna to Zvolen.
- From Bratislava, there are regular bus and train connections to Zvolen.
- From Budapest, there are daily flixbus connections to Zvolen.
- From Vienna, there are regular train or bus connections to Zvolen.

Here is the website to look for bus and train connections in Slovakia: www.cp.sk (only in Slovak).

From Zvolen, the bus direction Pliešovce, Zaježová is leaving from platform 7, you have to stop at Zaježová, Bosákovci and someone will wait for you at the bus stop.

- 11:00 Zvolen, AS > 11:49 Pliešovce, Zaježová, Bosákovci
 - (Bus 664)
- 13:50 Zvolen, AS > 14:20 Pliešovce + 14:20 Pliešovce > 14:34 Pliešovce, Zaježová, Bosákovci - you have to change the bus in Pliesovce, the buses are waiting for each other.
 - (Bus 112 direction Litava + Bus 664)
- 15:45 Zvolen, AS - 16:30 Pliešovce, Zaježová, Bosákovci
 - (Bus 664)



Do not hesitate to contact us
if you need support to find a connection.

If you arrive after 15h45 in Zvolen, you can take one of these buses from platform 7 and go out in Pliešovce autobusová stanica. We will organize a transfer by car from Pliesovce to the education center.

- 17h10 direction Pliesovce (Bus 664)
- 18h30 direction Litava (Bus 112)
- 20h30 direction Pliesovce (Bus 664)



BY CAR:

Here is the address of the Center:
Vzdelávacie centrum Zaježová
Polomy 20
962 63 Pliešovce





TRAVEL BUDGET

Country	Green travel (carpooling, train, bus)	Non green travel (Plane, car alone)
Slovakia	56 €	---
Spain	---	309 €
Kosovo	---	309 €
Greece	---	309 €
Croatia	285 €	211 €
Serbia	285 €	211 €
Hungary	285 €	211 €
Italy	417 €	309 €
Germany	417 €	309 €
The Netherlands	417 €	309 €
France	417 €	309 €

Keep ALL tickets, invoices, boarding passes to be reimburse.





QUESTIONS?

- For questions regarding the venue and practicalities contact Eponine:
eponinsels@gmail.com
- For questions regarding the content contact Etti:
yestosustainability@gmail.com

APPLY HERE!



 Deadline to apply: 25.10.26
(you will receive feedback on our selection by 1.11.26)

